

2320 Central Street
Evanston, IL, 60201

October 13, 2005

Application 10/664,773

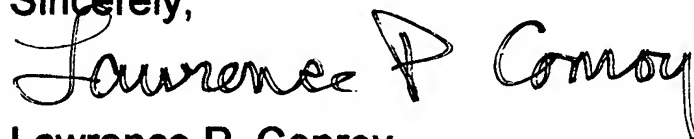
Carl D. Friedman
Supervisory Patent Examiner
USPTO

Dear Sir:

The conclusions reached in your response of September, 16, 2005 are not supported by an examination and comparison of the drawings in your citations 6,134,859 and 5,937,591 and our application.

When might we expect reform of the patent process?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence P. Conroy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lawrence P. Conroy

cc:Jon Dudas, T.S. Robertson, E. Walsh



US 20050055966A1

(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) Pub. No.: **US 2005/0055966 A1****Conroy**(43) Pub. Date: **Mar. 17, 2005**(54) **INTEGRATED FRAMING SYSTEM**

Publication Classification

(76) Inventor: **Lawrence Peter Conroy, Evanston, IL (US)**(51) Int. Cl.⁷ E04C 3/30

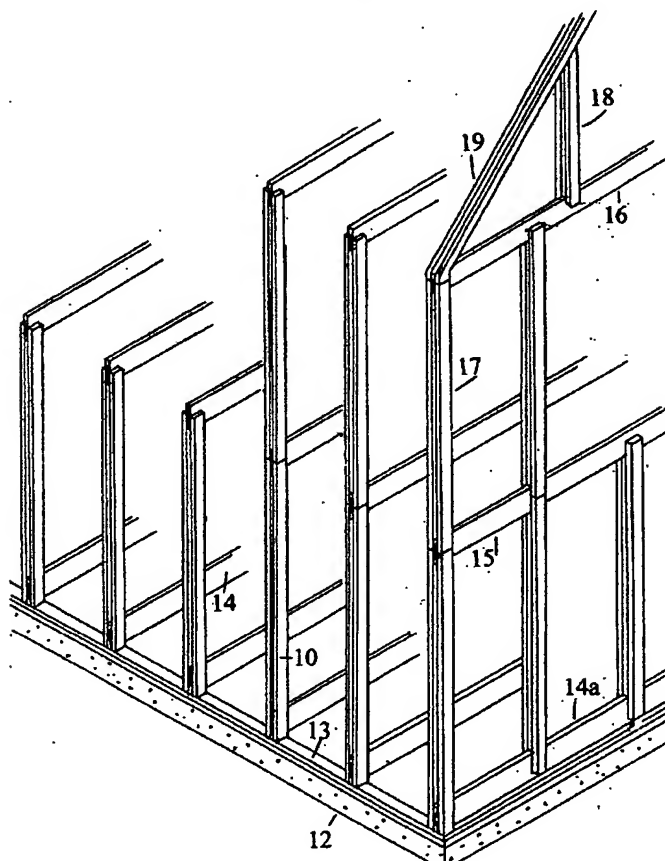
(52) U.S. Cl. 52/720.1

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(57)

ABSTRACT

All the basic structural components of frame construction are directly connected with one another including foundation plate, studs, floor and ceiling joists as well as rafters. The significant element of this integrated construction is a three-part composite stud easily constructed from commonly used construction lumber to form a totally unified framework which provides a much stronger, stable and desirable structure than that achieved by present construction methods.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/664,773**(22) Filed: **Sep. 17, 2003**

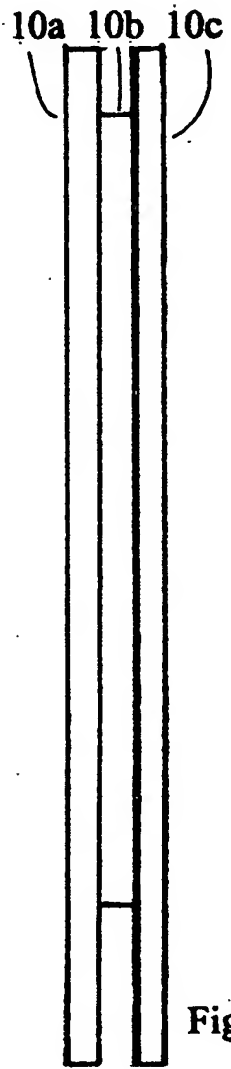


Fig. 1a

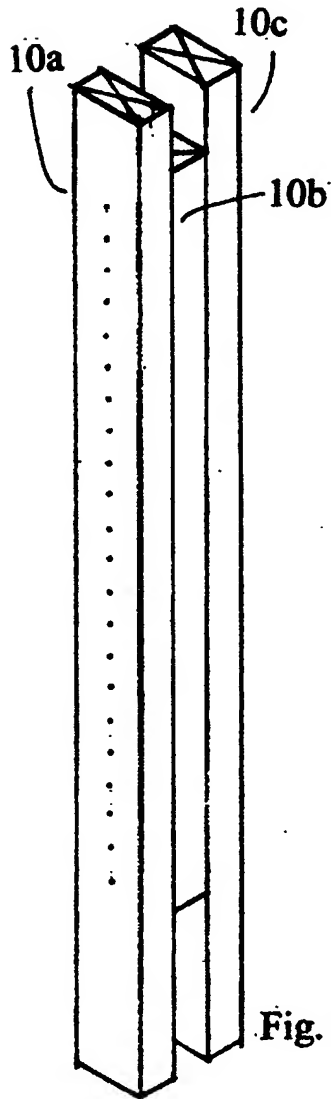


Fig. 1b

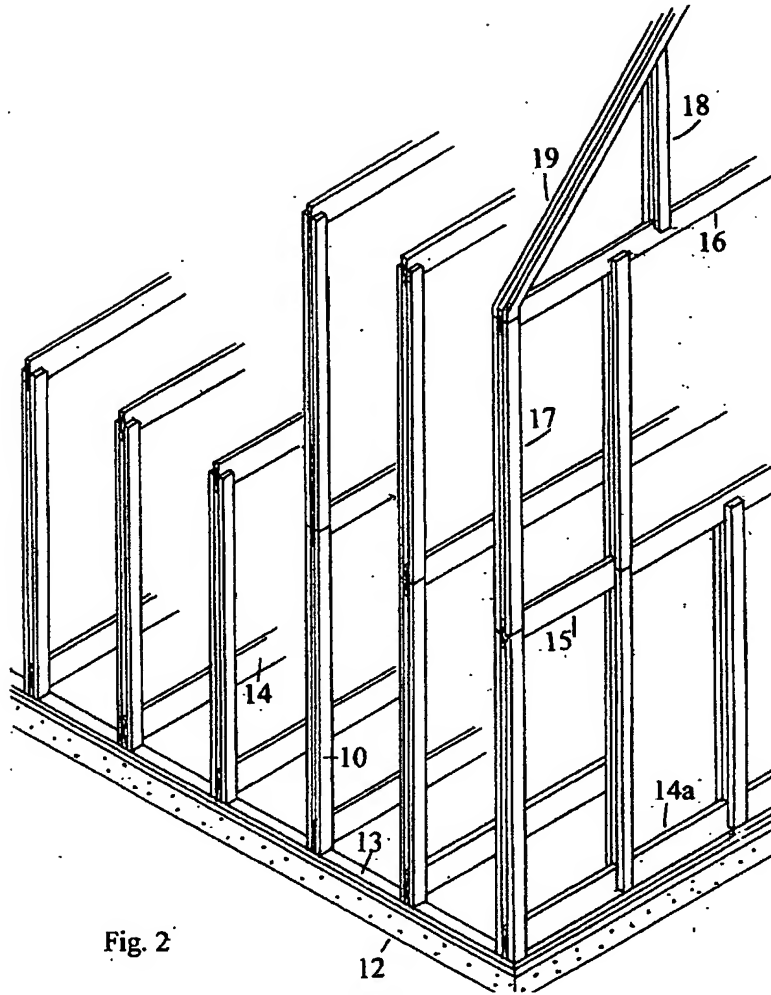
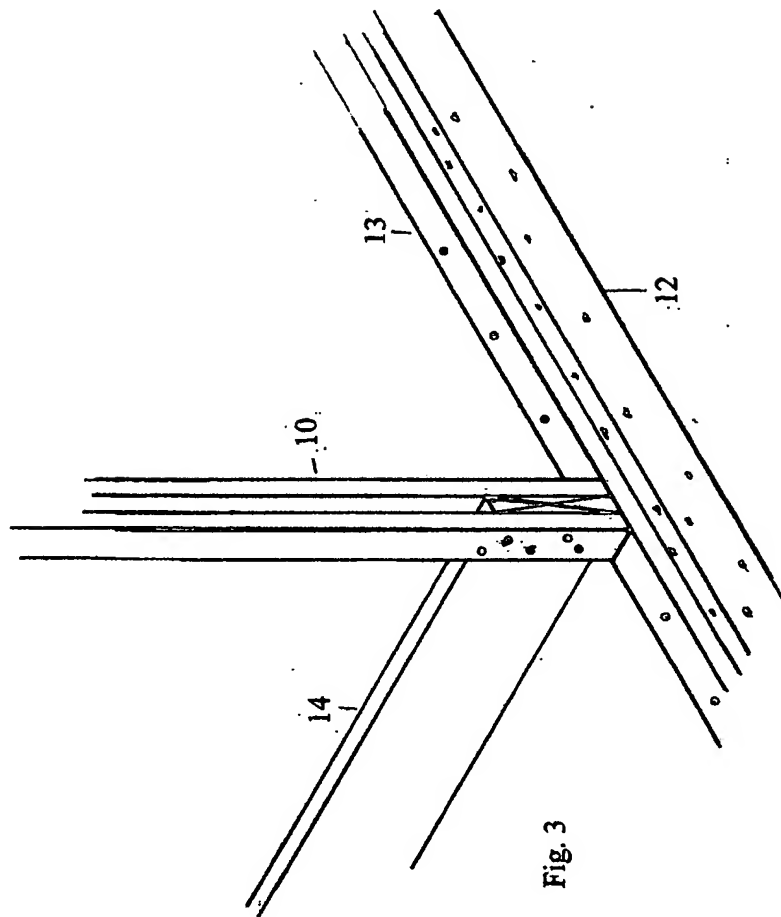


Fig. 2



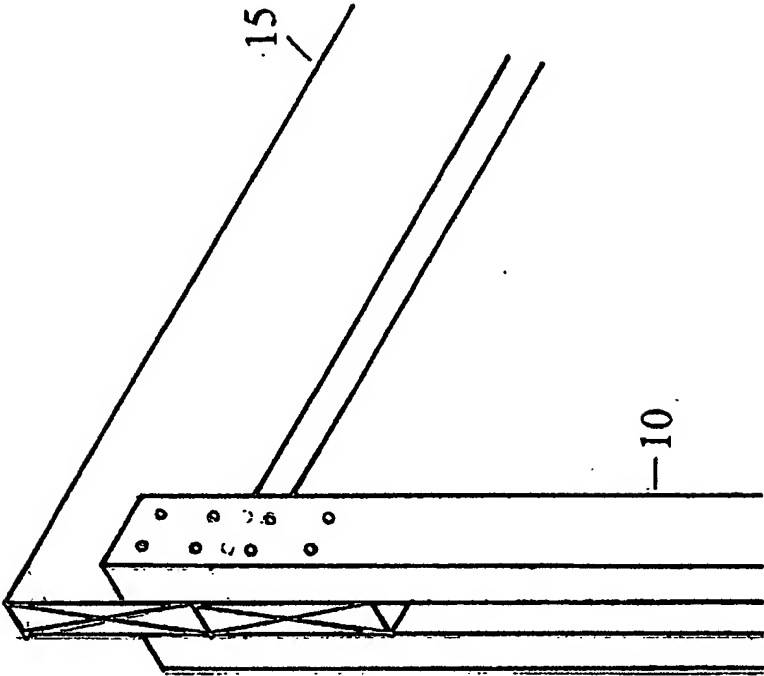


Fig. 4

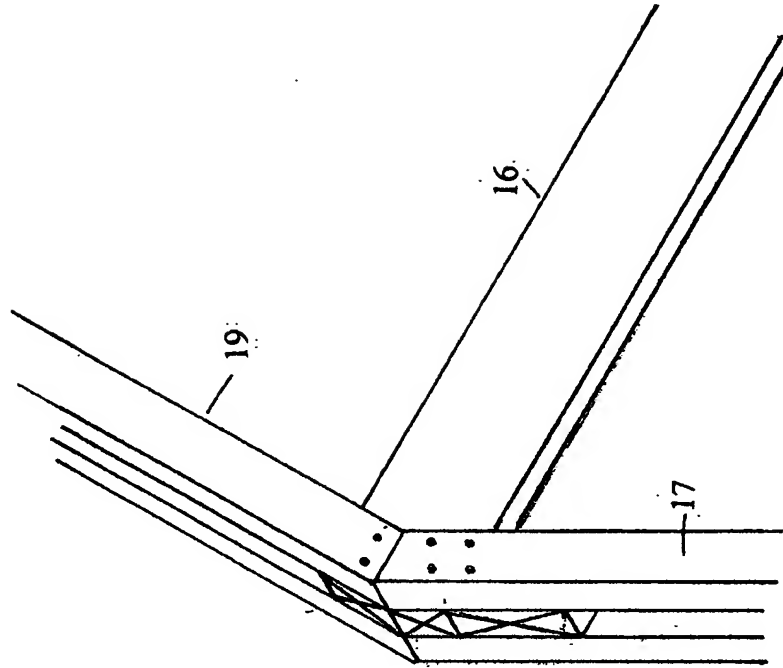


Fig. 5



US006134859A

United States Patent [19]

Rudd

[11] Patent Number: **6,134,859**
 [45] Date of Patent: **Oct. 24, 2000**

[54] **METAL AND WOOD COMPOSITE FRAMING MEMBERS FOR RESIDENTIAL AND LIGHT COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION**

[75] Inventor: **Armin F. Rudd, Cocoa, Fla.**

[73] Assignee: **University of Central Florida, Orlando, Fla.**

[21] Appl. No.: **09/332,452**

[22] Filed: **Jun. 14, 1999**

Related U.S. Application Data

[62] Division of application No. 08/974,898, Nov. 20, 1997, Pat. No. 5,921,054, which is a division of application No. 08/664,442, Jun. 21, 1996, abandoned.

[60] Provisional application No. 60/012,688, Mar. 1, 1996.

[51] Int. Cl.⁷ **E04C 3/30**

[52] U.S. CL. **52/737.3; 52/376; 52/730.7; 52/731.8; 52/731.9; 52/738.1; 52/765**

[58] Field of Search **52/730.7, 731.1, 52/731.8, 731.9, 737.3, 776, 765, 699, 481.1, 376**

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Primary Examiner—Carl D. Friedman

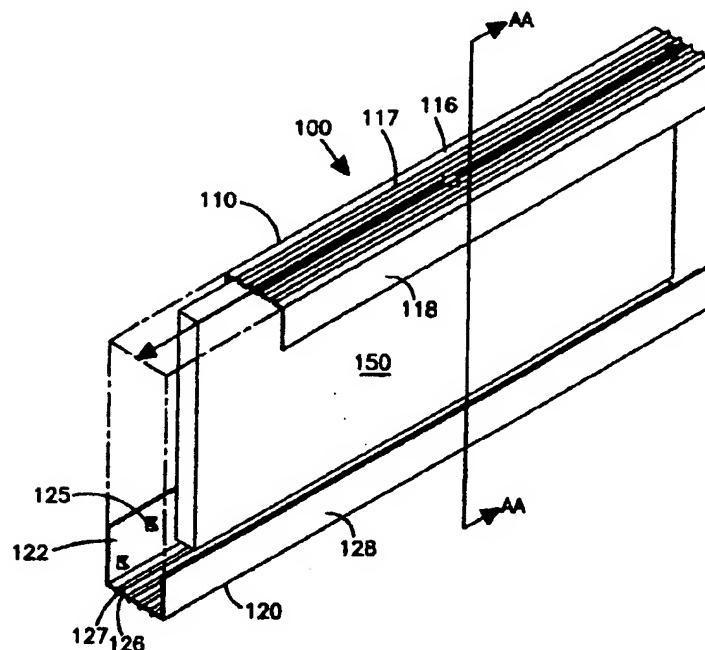
Assistant Examiner—Yvonne M. Horton

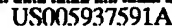
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Brian S. Steinberger, Law Offices of Brian S. Steinberger

[57] ABSTRACT

Metal and wood composites are used to create framing members (studs and tracks, joists and bands, rafters, headers and the like.) for lightweight construction. Metal is utilized for its high strength, resistance to rot and insects, cost stability, and potentially lower cost through recycling. Metal that can be used includes roll formed steel approximately 18–22 gauge. Wood is used primarily for its lower thermal conductivity, and availability. The metal components form the primary structure while wood, either solid or other engineered wood, provides some structure and a thermal break. The invention connects J-shaped or triangular shaped metal forms to wood sections. The metal flange ends can have various J, C, L, right triangular, triangular, T and straight line cross-sectional shapes. The wood is fastened to the metal by machine pressing of the metal to wood. Alternatively the fastening includes nails, staples, screws, and the like, and also by adhesive glue. The outward faces of the metal members are preformed with four longitudinal ridges such that the contact surface area to applied sheathings is reduced by about 90%.

3 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets





[11] **Patent Number:** 5,937,591
[45] **Date of Patent:** Aug. 17, 1999

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Primary Examiner—Card D. Friedman
Assistant Examiner—Winnie S. Yip
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.C.

Related U.S. Application Data

[62] Division of application No. 08/529,132, Sep. 15, 1995, Pat. No. 5,666,766.

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ E04B 7/04

[52] U.S. Cl. 52/94; 52/91.2; 52/92.1; 52/92.3

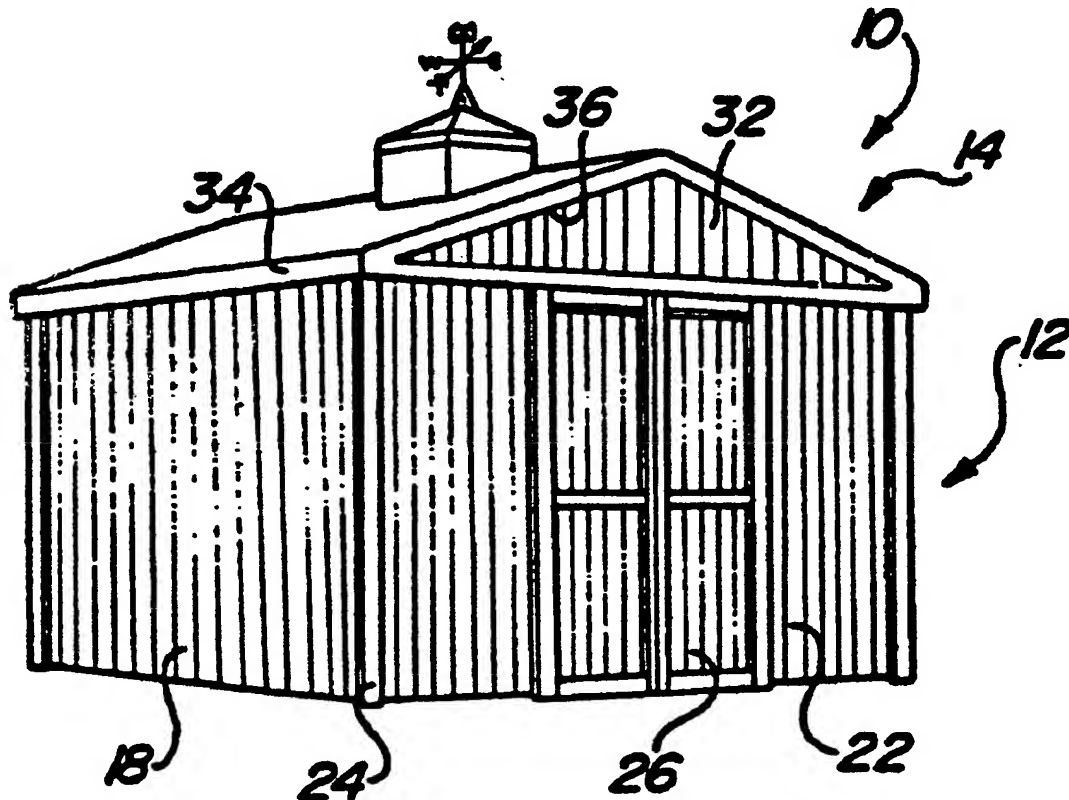
[58] Field of Search 52/90.1, 91.1, 52/92.1, 92.2, 92.3, 93.2, 94, 270

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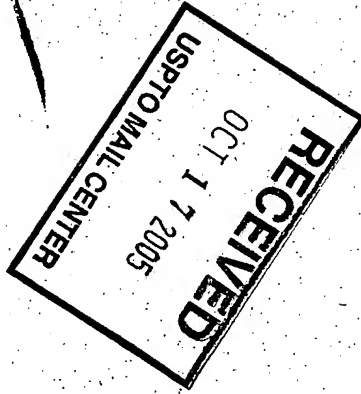
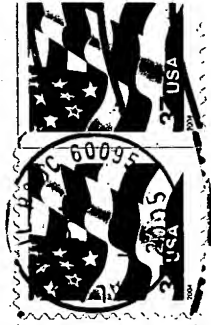
The present invention relates to building constructions which are relatively inexpensive and easy to assemble. Under a first embodiment, a building construction comprised of a lower portion and an upper portion wherein the lower portion includes a plurality of walls having a radially outwardly extending top plate which serves to support the upper portion of the building and assists in providing the building with an exaggerated eave is disclosed. Under a second embodiment, the building construction includes a plurality of inner and outer frame members wherein the outer frame members serve the additional function of a trim assembly. As the building constructions of the present invention are relatively easy to construct, the building constructions can be sold as a kit for construction by individuals having relatively little experience in the construction field.

8 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets





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